OPC Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • JANUARY 2000

Andy Rooney to Speak at OPC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon

by Bill Holstein

Andy Rooney, who has spent 56 years in the news business, will be the guest speaker at the OPC Foundation's annual scholarship luncheon on Monday, January 24. The event will begin at noon at the Yale Club, 50 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York.

Rooney, best known for his role as commentator on CBS News' "60 Minutes," started his career in Europe. After being drafted into the U.S. Army in 1941, he was one of eight correspondents who flew with the Eighth Air Force on the first American bombing raid on Germany in 1943. Although he considers himself a writer, Rooney, an OPC member, has been one of the broadcasting industry's more enduring figures along with the likes of Walter Cronkite and Harry Reasoner..

At the luncheon, the OPC Foundation will also award $2,000 checks to nine undergraduate and graduate students who aspire to become foreign correspondents. The Overseas Press Club itself has contributed to the Foundation's ability to maintain the scholarships at the $2,000 level. So too has the Scripps Howard Foundation, which recently made a major contribution to the OPC Foundation. (See article, page 4).

A panel of judges headed by the Club's Bernard Gavzer selected the winners from among the entries that arrived from dozens of top universities. Winners of last year's scholarships have used the money to, among other things: become managing editor of the *St. Petersburg Times* in St. Petersburg, Russia; travel to Vietnam for the *San Jose Mercury News;*

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Andy Rooney

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Ungar Leads America's Voice Into the New Millennium

by Lee Townsend

Sanford (Sandy) Ungar is six months into a job that on paper at least looks like a broadcast executive's dream. And in many ways it is.

As Director of the Voice of America, he is taking the VOA into a challenging new millennium. He has a staff of more than 1,100 and 1,100 affiliates and 21 bureaus around the world and reaches an audience of 91 million listening to 900 hours a week of VOA programming.

But all is not power and glory in Ungar's work, as he made clear in a talk sponsored by the Overseas Press Club and the Foreign Policy Association December 13 at Club Quarters, 40 West 45 Street in New York.

Ungar was introduced by a man who knows a great deal about running a giant broadcasting operation, Michael H. Jordan, former chairman of the CBS Corporation and a board member of the Foreign Policy Association.

Jordan was introduced by OPC President Roy Rowan, who "knew Ungar when..." as the old saying goes. Thirty-four years ago Ungar was an intern under Rowan, at the time a top editor of *Life* Magazine. Ungar said if he is good or bad in journalism, "Roy is at least in part to blame."

Now, as detailed by Ungar in his talk, here are some reasons his job has its downside:

He is the 24th VOA director and the average time in the job is only two years. If there are any complaints the buck stops on his desk and since the agency broadcasts in 53 different languages, he obviously can't keep too close track of everything that goes out. During the 44 years of the Cold War there was broad support in this country for the VOA. But

(Continued on Page 4)

From the President:
Millennium Bragging Rights

As we begin the new year, century, and millennium, I can't resist the temptation to brag a bit about our club—and with the hope that you, too, will brag a bit about it to prospective members.

As you know we took a giant step in 1999, moving into an elegant new clubhouse at 40 West 45th Street in Manhattan. Now we not only maintain first rate social facilities (excellent bar and restaurant), but for you out-of-town members, modern rooms at reasonable rates.

Our programs have never been more varied or frequent, drawing capacity audiences. Our journalism awards continue to gain in prestige and number of entries. The annual awards dinner last April, celebrating our 60th year, was a huge success. *Dateline* had more advertising and was a first class publication.

Our 12-page monthly *Bulletin* has never been livelier or better edited. We also established an OPC web page, which remains to be updated on a regular basis. We promise to do this during the coming months. A new directory, including E-mail addresses, is at the printers and will be mailed to you.

Our Freedom of the Press Committee was recently expanded to five members, and has been keeping an ever-more watchful eye on abuses against journalists around the world. Last year the committee wrote about 100 letters to chiefs of state and other officials on behalf of endangered reporters, photographers and editors.

We have established reciprocal privileges with many more press clubs both in the U.S. and overseas, including the European Federation of Press Clubs.

The Overseas Press Club Foundation, which offers nine annual scholarships to young journalists, was very successful in soliciting contributions in 1999, almost doubling its endowment.

In response to many inquiries from the field, we are currently exploring the possibility of offering our members group health insurance.

Most important of all, for the continued health of the club, we are adding members at a record rate. Younger ones, too, encouraged by the recently enacted low dues for members under 35.

BUT, and this is a big BUT, to support our new facilities and expanded activities, we must keep growing. Two *Bulletins* ago we sent each of you a membership application. We asked you to encourage your friends and colleagues to sign up. Once again, I repeat the request. The OPC now has a lot to offer. It costs very little to belong, especially for those living abroad. So please do what you can to spread the word.

Happy New Millennium,

Roy Rowan

Welcome to Our New Members

Robert Bartholomew
American Correspondent
Athens International Media
active resident

Susan Berfield
International Finance Editor
Business Week
active resident

John Dominis
Retired Photographer
Life magazine
associate resident retired

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Senior Editor
US News & World Report
active resident

Sandi Logan
Counsellor, Public Affairs
Embassy of Australia
associate non resident

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Next Up for Censorship: The Internet?

by Norman A. Schorr and Larry Martz
OPC Freedom of the Press Committee

It is probably inevitable that the rise of the Internet automatically makes some people want to censor it. Sure enough, the recent General Conference of UNESCO in Paris provided the springboard for at least two debates on curbing speech in cyberspace.

According to reports in the World Press Freedom Committee (WPFC) December newsletter, UNESCO—the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization—hosted a "summit" of broadcast regulators from 60 nations to discuss expanding their mandates into cyberspace. Typically, Gareth Granger, deputy chairman of the Australian Broadcasting Authority, said many countries "seek a more appropriate balance between the right to free expression and the right of communities to nurture national and local cultures, and to protect children from harmful content."

Hervé Bourges, head of France's broadcasting regulatory authority, said news and other services in cyberspace would have one of three choices: "regulation, self-regulation or co-regulation." When Ronald Koven, WPFC's European representative, suggested that there was a fourth choice—"freedom for cyberspace news media"—Bourges called that view "extreme." Koven argued that regulations now being proposed for the Internet would never be tolerated for traditional media. But once adopted, he warned, they could be used as precedents to be extended to traditional press and broadcasters.

At a separate round-table debate on social, ethical and legal issues of cyberspace, the WPFC newsletter reported, some panelists called for more widespread access to the Internet as an information link, but others warned that it could be a threat to youth and morals. Koven, representing a nine-group Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organizations, argued that no new legislation is needed for the Internet, since adequate laws already exist to punish fraud, false advertising, defamation, copyright infringement and pornography.

UNESCO's new director general, Koichiro Matsuura of Japan, said reassuringly in his inaugural address to the biennial conference that "UNESCO must continue to champion free expression." That would continue the policy of Matsuura's predecessor, Federico Mayor of Spain. And it is a hopeful sign, said the WPFC newsletter, that Matsuura intends to keep in office two strong champions of press freedom, assistant directors general Henrikas Yushkiavitshus and Alain Modoux. It was Modoux who assured OPC representatives in 1987, at the beginning of Mayor's term, that UNESCO would change its policy from repression to active support for press freedom. True to that prediction, Mayor actively promoted the annual May 3 worldwide celebration of World Press Freedom Day.

At another meeting in London, the newsletter reported, press freedom monitors for three international groups—the UN, the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe (OSCE)—called for the review of criminal defamation laws, which they said "unduly restrict the right to freedom of expression." Such laws, which have been passed in dozens of countries around the world, including many democracies, provide for jail sentences or heavy fines for reports deemed insulting or damaging to official reputations, whether true or not. The Handbook for Journalists, published by the WPFC, now is available in French, the newsletter reports. It was translated particularly for use by budding newsmen and women in Francophone Africa.

In its annual review, the World Association of Newspapers (WAN) reported that killing, jailing and censorship of journalists is on the rise. So far this year, by the WAN tally, at least 47 journalists have been killed and 400 imprisoned, and 150 newspapers have

Wallace Speaks Out On "The Insider"

After reading the December *Bulletin,* OPC member Mike Wallace told the *Bulletin* that the "People" editor's item about the movie "The Insider," gleaned from newspaper and magazine reports, did not accurately nor completely report how CBS' "60 Minutes" handled the story of a tobacco industry whistleblower. So we asked Mike to reply, and here is what he wrote to us on Dec. 9:

"The film 'The Insider' is shot through with inaccuracies and replete with fictions, among them the allegation that I somehow went along with the CBS General Counsel's decision to prevent '60 Minutes' from airing the interview I'd done with Jeffrey Wigand, the executive turned whistleblower at Brown and Williamson Tobacco.

"The facts are these: For a period of just one day, after losing my battle with the CBS General Counsel, I did in fact agree to go ahead with a truncated piece, sans Wigand. Don Hewitt ['60 Minutes' executive producer] also agreed, as did Lowell Bergman, the producer.

"But after that one day (as was pointed out recently in an editor's note in *The New York Times*) I made clear publicly my dismay at the General Counsel's decision, and was permitted by the President of CBS, Peter Lund, to express that dismay in a personal note at the end of the '60 Minutes' broadcast on November 12, 1995.

"The CBS General Counsel had decided there was the likelihood of a several billion dollar lawsuit, by Brown and Williamson Tobacco against CBS, for 'tortious interference' with their employee Jeffrey Wigand, if his interview were to be aired. Three months later, of course, after *The Wall Street Journal* published Wigand's testimony in a Mississippi deposition, the threat of a 'tortious interference' lawsuit no longer threatened, and so the CBS General Counsel permitted us to broadcast the interview.


Mike Wallace

"'The Insider,' of course, skipped all of this in telling of the tale, hence my charge of 'inaccuracies' and 'fiction' in the film."



MICHAEL POLLIO, CAMERA ONE

Michael Jordan; Sandy Ungar; Noel Lateef, President of the Foreign Policy Association; Roy Rowan, President of the OPC.

UNGAR SPEAKS AT THE OPC

(Continued from Page 1)

now "the Berlin Wall does not exist" and there are more signs now of "the country's deeply felt Xenophobia." Ungar added, "almost half the members of the U.S. Congress proudly announce they don't have passports."

The VOA Director pointed out that the annual budget for the agency is $105 million (half the cost of one B1B Bomber) and now Congress is calling for 5 percent cuts annually in that figure. He said the VOA was not told to stop anything—just do it all for less. "Can we continue to do it all? No!"

Although the Voice of America —which by law can not be voiced in America — is beamed to "virtually every country in the world," Ungar said half its audience are in these five nations: China, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Ethiopia and Bangladesh.

Sixty-seven percent of all radios in Afghanistan listen to VOA while government radio only gets 50 percent. In Bangladesh, the VOA director is "treated like Sinatra" and there actually are VOA fan clubs.

A couple of other tidbits: The VOA has the most popular radio program in Estonia and in Haiti the agency has a Creole service that often broadcasts news in rap.

Before his current post, Ungar was dean of the School of Communication at American University in Washington, DC. Author of a number of books, including "Fresh Blood: The New American Immigrants" (Simon and Schuster) in 1995, he has worked at NPR, *The Atlantic, Foreign Policy Magazine, The Washington Post, Newsweek, The Economist* and UPI.

Ungar left the audience of more than 80 with one trivia question: If the speaker was the 24th VOA director, who was the first?

The answer: producer, director and actor John Houseman.

Large Scripps Howard Donation Aids OPC Foundation

The Scripps Howard Foundation has donated $50,000 to the OPC Foundation to endow permanently the scholarship given in the name of Irene Corbally Kuhn, one of the founders of the Overseas Press Club.

The grant will guarantee in perpetuity that each year the winner of the Kuhn scholarship receives $2,000. The Foundation grants eight other scholarships, but none of them has yet achieved full endowment status. "We're absolutely thrilled that the Scripps Howard Foundation has chosen to support our program in this way," said OPC Foundation President Bill Holstein.

Kuhn was a pioneering woman journalist before it was fashionable. Determined to be a reporter and to see the world in the aftermath of World War I, the young Irene Corbally worked for the *Chicago Tribune* in Paris and then made the jump to Shanghai where she worked for the *Evening Star.* It was there that she met and married newsman Bert Kuhn. Both of them became friendly with Roy Howard, the co-founder of the Scripps Howard newspaper empire and a key figure in building United Press into a worldwide newsgathering organization. Kuhn also spent some time working for the Scripps Howard *World-Telegram* in the 1930s in New York.

Other connections also helped the OPC Foundation win the funding. The fact that H.L. Stevenson, the late editor of United Press International, created the Foundation's scholarship program was a plus. So too was the fact that Howard's granddaughter, Pam Howard, lives in New York and is an OPC member. "There are so many links among us," says Ms. Howard, who is vice president of the Scripps Howard Foundation, headquartered in Cincinnati. OPC Foundation Board Member Elinor Griest led the year-long campaign to win the grant.

Ms. Howard is working on a biography of her grandfather entitled, "Roy W. Howard: A Newspaper Life in the Twentieth Century." She's looking for OPC members who knew him. Her E-mail is pamoward@aol.com

FOUNDATION LUNCHEON

(Continued from Page 1)

take up freelancing in Ireland; become manager of *Newsweek's* new Arabic language edition; and become an intern on the *Cambodian Daily* in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. "The evidence is just overwhelming that the recognition we confer upon these kids and the scholarship money we provide really help start promising careers in international journalism," said OPC Foundation President Bill Holstein.

Rooney's early experiences as a correspondent led to his first books entitled, "The Story of the Stars and Stripes," "Air Gunner," and "Conqueror's Peace." Altogether, he has written 12 books, most recently, "Sincerely, Andy Rooney." Rooney appeared on CNN's "Larry King Live" to discuss the book.

But it is as a scribe that Rooney seems happiest. His CV begins by recalling that *Time* magazine once called him "the most felicitous non-fiction writer in television." Rooney has won the Writers Guild Award for Best Script of the year six times, more than any other writer in the history of the medium. In fact, Rooney helped create an entire genre—the television essay.

In addition to his work at CBS News, Rooney, who still plays tennis at age 80, writes a column for Tribune Media Services, which appears in newspapers across the nation. He also has written for *Esquire, Life, Look, Reader's Digest, Harper's, Playboy,* and *Saturday Review.*

Tickets for the luncheon are $45 for members; $75 for non-members and supporting tables will range from $1,500 to $5,000. Reservations essential.

A Tale of Three Cities: Big Mac Meets Johann Strauss

by John D. Williams

(John D. Williams, a retired Wall Street Journal reporter and current OPC member, spent two weeks this past October in Central Eastern Europe with his wife, Geri. This is his memory of the event.)

A new type of invasion—a friendly one after over two millennia of turmoil—is hitting Hungary, Austria and the Czech Republic. Twelve days as a tourist in Budapest, Vienna and Prague were enough to get a feel for what's happening. The invaders—unlike their Roman, Turkish, German and Russian forebears—are tourists from around the world and business persons seeking new markets or low-cost labor.

But behind the verdant city parks, dramatic center city statues, castles and cathedrals, rolling green rural hills and beautiful Danube there are some disturbing signs. The same day we visited a historic synagogue and former ghetto in Prague we read that a new cement wall was recently built in nearby Usti nad Labem to separate 100 low income gypsy renters on Maticni Street from their home-owning Czech neighbors. President Vaclav Havel says the wall has turned the nation into a "symbol of xenophobia and discrimination," according to *The Prague Post.* Some leaders feel the wall could keep the republic from entering the European Union. Press reports said the Czech government finally paid to have the wall removed.

Neither the Czech Republic, with a 10% inflation, nor Hungary yet qualify for EU membership because of their financial straits but hope to enter in 2003. (An informed source says 2005 is more likely.) Tourism is Hungary's major earner, followed by farm products. The Czech Republic has more industry, such as the giant Skoda automaker and 1,387 breweries, and tourism is the number two moneymaker. Austria, the home of Bach and Beethoven and presently the producer of nearly every auto seat in Europe, is already in the 15-member EU and has heavy tourism.

Currencies of the three countries reflect their lot. Citibank won't even sell exiting U.S. tourists Hungary's forint (worth about a half penny) or Czech's koruna (about 4 cents) and travelers are alerted to spend these eratic currencies before they leave. Austria is pretty cocky with its stable schilling (about 8 cents). But there's one surprising thing that all three nations agree on: they all prefer carp as a main dish for Christmas. The Czech Republic has 5,000 fish farms producing the swimmers, which aren't deemed a delicacy in the U.S., and certainly not a replacement for turkey at Noel time.



John D. Williams

In addition to the Czech anti-gypsy wall, there's another disturbing news item—from Austria, once the center of the far-flung Hapsburg Empire. In a recent election, the far-right Freedom Party, whose leader, Jorg Haider, uses Nazi-era terms such as *"uberfreemdung"* (fear of foreign immigrants), won 27% of the vote. Haider was an entrant in the 30,000-runner New York City marathon in November. An Austrian explained that many people who support this party, fear that low-wage Romanians will swamp the country.

The prevalance of crime is sad. Tourists in Hungary and the Czech Republic are warned of pickpockets. One woman in our tour nearly lost her purse in the Budapest train depot to a clever thug until her husband drove him away by yelling. And recently FBI director Louis Freeh agreed in Budapest with officials to share data on stolen license plates, boats and cars.

Tourists in Budapest also have to worry about being scammed in restaurants. The U.S. Embassy there, for example, lists on its website a "dirty dozen" of such spots where diners should be price wary.

But most Hungarian news is good. U.S. Ambassador Peter Tufo said in *The Budapest Sun* that "Hungary may be home to another Silicon Valley." Motorola, the U.S. electronics firm, is rumored to be considering a site. And British Telecom recently set up an operation there. "I can order my tea in Japanese and now I'm learning to do so in Hungarian," said Christoph Thomas, CEO of BT Hungaria, the new unit.

Billboards mark the Western invasion. In Hungary and the Czech Republic many of the drab, pre-fab apartment houses—built during the 1960s and 1970s when the Soviets prevailed—now have large McDonald's, Coca-Cola or Ford billboards on the sides. Called "panelaks," the flawed buildings, which account for about a third of Czech apartments, will be repaired under a recently authorized $176 million federal program.

Signs of change pop up in many places. Outside Budapest there's a new, large Office Depot outlet, for example. And all three cities are dotted with McDonald's and Burger King outlets. In Vienna, there's a McDonald's (one of 24 in the city) in the building where Johann Strauss composed the Blue Danube Waltz.

Throngs of tourists also see other types of change. At Szentendre, Hungary, for example, sidewalk stands sell used Russian military hats for $25 each. And a stack doll, featuring Boris Yeltsin back to Lenin, goes for $10—the same price as one of President Clinton and the women in his life. Hungary has been free of direct Russian sway for 10 years. Some memories of that era persist. Tiny tufts of white cotton are seen in weedy edges of sprouting green fields of winter wheat in rural areas. They are reminders of the era when Soviets urged farmers to grow crops that weren't suited for the soil or climate.

All three cities have impressive rapid transit systems—buses, streetcars and subways. Vienna has five underground lines dating back from the 19th Century. A ride on a Prague subway—reached far underground by three steep escalators that run three times as fast as those in Manhattan—was an adventure. Four teenagers had found a way to keep a door open and yelled gustily as the wind whipped in. (In New York a subway won't move with a door open.)

But you come away with the feeling: Central Eastern Europeans are much like New Yorkers—some good, some bad, all interesting.

PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

BOGOTA: TV reporter **Alberto Sanchez** and cameraman **Luis Alberto Rincon** were shot in the head and killed in November while covering a local election in northeastern Colombia, an area of heavy fighting between Marxist guerrillas and right-wing paramilitary groups. The double murder was the third fatal attack on Colombian journalists in three months. Sanchez and Rincon were covering an election for mayor of El Playon after the last mayor was killed by gunmen in September along with his secretary and a bodyguard. In December, *El Tiempo* newspaper said one of its correspondents, **Carlos Pulgarin**, fled the country to an undisclosed destination after receiving anonymous death threats and being branded a guerrilla "mouthpiece" by a senior army commander. Pulgarin had been based in Monteria, a stronghold of Colombia's right-wing paramilitary groups.

HANOVER, New Hampshire: OPC member **Peter J. Gardner** recently became an attorney and has joined the law firm of Stebbins, Bradley, Wood & Harvey in Hanover, where he and his family now live. "Peter will specialize in business and commercial transactions, business organizational structure and general corporate matters," the firm announced. Before entering law, Gardner was president of Transatlantic Commercial Services Corporation in New York City and publisher of *Northern Centinel* in Kinderhook, N.Y. He is the son of another OPC member, **Ralph D. Gardner**, former *Bulletin* correspondent. Peter's E-mail address: pgardner@sbwhlaw.com

HELSINKI: After winning the 1999 OPC Irene Corbally Kuhn Scholarship last January, **Aira-Katariina Vehaskari** has never stopped running. Specializing in foreign correspondence and photojournalism, she graduated in May from Columbia University with a master's degree in journalism, was president of her class and president of Columbia's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. She then flew to Phnom Penh to become an intern at *The Cambodia Daily,* and now with a Fulbright Grant is in Helsinki collecting profiles and photos on an emerging Somali refugee culture in Finland. Somalis make up the largest group of refugees in her native Finland.

In a long E-mail message to **Rosalind Massow**, board member of the OPC Foundation, Vehaskari described her adventures since winning the OPC scholarship: "I flew in Cambodian army helicopters to remote murder sites, interviewed a lama (reincarnated spiritual leader) in Nepal, photographed the blasted remains of French imperialism in southern Cambodia, the funeral pyre of Pol Pot and former killing fields honored with magnificent Buddhist temples. I covered illegal Vietnamese logging, the economic and environmental damage that will be done by China's massive hydroelectric dam in Yunnan Province and interviewed Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen." In her report to Massow, Vehaskari said receiving the OPC scholarship "was a terrific boost of optimism in the middle of pretty harsh and overwhelming academic year. It was inspirational!...Please thank the OPC on my behalf for the award and their continuing interest."

Noting that Columbia taught her that it takes several years to become a reporter abroad, Vehaskari said that through the OPC she met "independent and passionate....young beginners like myself, as well as groundbreakers like **Flora Lewis**." Vehaskari then became an instant foreign correspondent in Asia and hopes to find a newspaper job in the Middle East, Italy "or any other interesting place" after completing her Fulbright research this summer. She speaks French, Finnish, German, Bangali, two African tribal languages and smatterings of Khmer; now is studying Russian and Italian; and hopes to go to the Middle East to learn Arabic and cover women and environmental issues. Contact her at Et. Hesperiankatu 34 A 23, 00100 Helsinki, Finland; E-mail avehaskari@hotmail.com

HONOLULU: OPC member **Moana Tregaskis** reports that the fourth edition of her book "Hawai'i" [Random House/Fodors/Compass] now is in bookstores. Moana, whose freelance travel articles have been published in *The New York Times* and elsewhere, is the widow of **Richard Tregaskis** (1916-1973), a World War II correspondent for INS whose books include "Guadalcanal Diary" [New York: Random House, 1943], a best seller during the war years. Richard also was an OPC member, and Moana told the *Bulletin* that from their Pacific haunts they visited the old OPC clubhouse on New York City's West 40th Street several times.



Moana Tregaskis

ISLAMABAD: In December, Pakistan appointed **Maleeha Lodhi**, editor of *The News,* an English-language daily, as its ambassador to the United States, his second diplomatic posting to America. Lodhi was ambassador in Washington 1993-1996.

ISTANBUL: A Turkish court told American journalist **Andrew Finkel** in November that charges against him of slandering the Turkish Army would be dropped if he committed no other offense in the next three years. Finkel wrote the cited article for an Istanbul newspaper.

KENT, Ohio: OPC member **John L. Scott** received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Kent State University in December for earning "an international reputation for his high journalistic standards and distinguished career in radio and television." A 1943 graduate of Kent State, Scott spent 34 years as a reporter, correspondent and news anchor with Mutual Broadcasting System and New York's WOR radio and television. Over the years, he reported from the United Nations, Berlin, Geneva, London, Paris, Rome and Madrid. He interviewed Presidents Eisenhower, Truman and Nixon; and world leaders including Winston Churchill, Marshal Tito, Golda Meir and Kurt Waldheim. After leaving WOR in 1977, Scott formed his own company, Scott/Infocam Broadcast Services. He created, wrote and produced "The American Character," a daily radio series narrated by clergyman Dr. Norman Vincent Peale and carried on more than 600 radio stations for 10 years. Author of



John Scott

three inspirational books, Scott now works as host and narrator of "New Jersey Times," a Rutgers University weekly radio series.

LINCOLN, Nebraska: In project "Staying in School," OPC member **Barney Oldfield** is offering $1,000 to Nebraska kindergarten students and, years later, another $1,000 if they enroll in a Nebraska university or college. Winning youngsters are selected for the best written answers to the question: "If you were given $1,000 cash, what would you do with it?" Meanwhile in another Oldfield program, Trinidad-born Vince Salazar Thomas, a Ph.D. scientist who conducts research on aging at the U.S. National Institute of Health and the University of Nebraska Medical Center, has won the first $16,000 grant from an endowment fund that supports Alzheimer research at the University of Nebraska. Oldfield, who was born in Nebraska and now lives in Beverly Hills, California, established the programs in memory of his wife, **Vada**, who died last year of Alzheimer, and his parents. Both Barney and Vada are veterans of World War II in Europe.



Barney and Vada Oldfield

LONDON: Led by deputy editor **Rebekah Wade**, several executives at **Rupert Murdoch's** *The Sun* are pushing for a ban on photos of topless women that have been displayed on the daily's page three since 1970. *The Correspondent,* journal of our reciprocal Foreign Correspondents' Association in Sydney, where Murdoch started his career, commented that opponents argue "that naked breasts were unlikely to attract the female readers needed to prop up the declining circulation of the newspaper....However, the old guard in the newsroom is backing the retention of Topless Tracy and her well-endowed sisters, saying that without them the paper's core readership of working-class men would go elsewhere." *The Correspondent* said the pin-ups are opposed by Murdoch's former wife **Anna**, his daughter **Elizabeth** and his new wife, **Wendi Deng**, former vice president of Murdoch's Hong Kong-based STAR Television.

LOS ANGELES: When **Brad Martin** of *Asia Times Online* visited Los Angeles from Tokyo late last year, old friends from their mutual days in the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan gathered to meet him. They were OPC member **Jim Colligan**, retired from Catholic News Service; **Mike Tharp**, *U.S. News and World Report;* and **John Needham**, formerly UPI in Asia and now an editorial writer for *The Los Angeles Times.*



Brad Martin



Jim Colligan

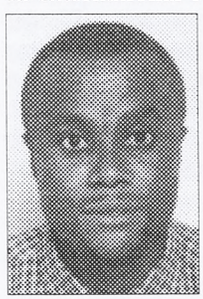


Mike Tharp



John Needham

LUSAKA, Zambia: Late last year, **Cyril Ibe**, a Chicago public radio producer who won a 1999 Pew Fellowship in International Journalism, was producing a program on Angola's long-running conflict. He started his five-week reporting assignment by visiting Angolan refugees in neighboring Zambia. In an E-mail message to OPC member **John Schidlovsky**, director of the Pew Fellowships at The Johns Hopkins University, Ibe wrote: "I was able to make it to the Meheba refugee settlement in northwestern Zambia with nearly 30,000 Angolan refugees....The refugees didn't want me to leave. I didn't want to leave either. Perhaps the most fulfilling part of journalism is the fact that once you get people talking they don't want to stop. Once the ice is broken, it's easy sailing. I love it."



Cyril Ibe

NEW YORK: In January, **Myrna Blyth**, editor in chief of *Ladies Home Journal* and former OPC board member, received the 1999 Henry Johnson Fisher Award, the magazine publishing industry's highest honor. Editor and publishing director of the *Journal* for nearly 20 years, Blyth also is editor of the recently launched magazine *MORE,* a Meredith publication aimed at women over 40. Her husband, British journalist **Jeffrey Blyth**, is a longtime OPC member.



Myrna Blyth

◆

OPC member **Walter H. Anderson**, 55, was appointed chairman, publisher and CEO of Parade Publications that publishes *Parade,* the largest-circulated Sunday newspaper magazine in the United States. He succeeds **Carlo Vittorini**, who is retiring on Feb. 28, his 70th birthday. After working on newspapers in Westchester County, New York, Anderson joined *Parade* as senior editor in 1977 and has been editor since 1980 and executive vice president of Parade Publications the past three years. *Parade* is a Sunday supplement distributed by some 335 U.S. newspapers with a circulation of about 37 million. Author of several books, Anderson wrote in his biography published in *Who's Who in America:* "I hope a single driving desire remains with me always—that is, to encourage talented people. To share, even in the least of ways, in the growth of a creative talent is the highest goal of an editor, if his career is to matter at all."



Walter H. Anderson

◆

OPC member **Craig R. Whitney**, 56, is the new night editor of *The New York Times.* Most recently the newspaper's Paris bureau chief, he reported earlier from Washington, Moscow, Bonn, London and Saigon, and is a former *Times* foreign editor. Whitney succeeded **Martin D. Baron**, 45, who became executive editor of *The Miami Herald* Jan. 1. A previous assistant managing editor of *The Times,* Whitney regained that title in

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his new post. **Joseph Lelyveld**, *The Times* executive editor and former correspondent in Johannesburg, New Delhi, Hong Kong and London, said: "It's hard to think of anyone who has a richer set of experiences on this paper than Craig. It gives me great peace of mind to know that he will be the person in charge in those last hours when the paper is coming together."



Martin D. Baron



Craig R. Whitney

◆

Now in its 26th year, the International Center of Photography in New York City is expanding its galleries and enlarging its school. The Center closed its premises at 1133 Avenue of the Americas at 43rd street in November to reconstruct and expand its galleries and is scheduled to reopen there in September with a major exhibition. Meanwhile, the Center will continue operating at its other location, 1130 Fifth Avenue at 94th Street. The Center has sold its Fifth Avenue building and will close its operations there when the galleries, school and administrative offices reopen on the Avenue of the Americas. **Raymond J. McGuire**, president of the Center's board of trustees, said: "Our new space will give the museum and the school the opportunity to increase our commitment to photographic exhibitions, collection and education programs, and also to integrate advanced technologies into our activities in a more ambitious way." **Willis E. Hartshorn**, Center director, said the new facility "will enable us to meet the goals of our exhibition, collection and education programs, and heighten our service to the public." The Center was founded in 1974 by photojournalist **Cornell Capa**, a former OPC member and brother of the late **Robert Capa**, who won fame for his photos of the Spanish Civil War and World War II's Normandy landing and for whom one of the Club's annual photo awards is named.

◆

An aritcle by columnist **William Safire** in the Nov. 28 issue of *The New York Times Magazine* recalled advice that an OPC member gave to his reporters more than 40 years ago. Safire wrote that he once used the word *revealed* in reporting that newspapers had revealed a person's identity. A reader asked if *disclose* or *divulge* would have been a better choice of words. Safire agreed that the early use of *reveal* referred to the "unfolding of divine will....to *reveal* is to allow a vision of what is beyond the range of ordinary human reason or sight....According to Mathews [**T.S. Mathews**, a former *Time* managing editor] *revealed* was 'reserved for the five books of Moses and the poetry of William Blake.'" Good point. Back in the 1950s when he was United Press' Tokyo bureau manager, OPC member **Rutherford (Rud) Poats** told his reporters to use *reveal* in their dispatches only in reporting a message from Heaven.

◆

In the November issue of *Union Jack,* his New York newsletter for British and Commonwealth expatriates, OPC member **Charles Sweeting** reported that **Walter S. Isaacson**, managing editor of *Time*, and **Roy Harris Jenkins**, a Life Peer, former British cabinet minister and now chancellor of Oxford University, "traded barbs [at a St. George's Society program in New York's Century Club] about how they had reviewed one another's books." Isaacson was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University. Sweeting wrote: "Great Britain has the only two world class universities outside North America, Oxford and Cambridge, which are so alike that they play at differences."



Charles Sweeting

◆

Walking with crutches after a near-death traffic accident in Australia last May and months of surgery and recuperating in a Perth hospital (November *Bulletin*), **Robert Hughes**, *Time's* art critic, was welcomed back to New York City at a December party in Le Cirque 2000. Attending were *Time* executives and others including **Walter Isaacson**; **Gerald Levin**; OPC member **Norman Pearlstine**; Pearlstine's wife, author **Nancy Friday**; and *New York Post* columnist **Liz Smith**.



Robert Hughes



From left, Walter Isaacson, Gerald Levin, Liz Smith and Norman Pearlstine.

PHNOM PENH: Here is a journalist described in an AP dispatch as an "American philanthropist." **Bernie Krisher**, a former Tokyo correspondent for *Newsweek* and later *Fortune,* is managing a charity program to build 200 village schools in rural Cambodia and link their students to the world through the Internet (July *Bulletin*). By December, he had collected enough funds and pledges from the United States, Japan and Hong Kong to erect 50 schools. Three of the new schools opened in November. "I'm having a ball," Krisher, 68, who was six years old when he escaped with his family from Nazi Germany, told the *Bulletin.* Each five-room school is equipped with two solar panels that provide enough energy to operate a computer four to five hours a day, and village children are taught to operate computers linked to the Internet. Located in villages that have no electricity nor telephones, schools are named for donors who give $13,000. Gifts are matched by the World Bank, and the program has been endorsed by Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk and Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen. Krisher, who lives in Tokyo, has collected relief supplies for North Korea and is chairman of Japan Relief for Cambodia & American Assistance for Cambodia, founded by he and his wife **Akiko**. To train young journalists, Krisher founded and publishes *The Cambodia Daily,* an English-language newspaper with some pages printed in Khmer and Japanese.



Bernie Krisher

SANTA CLARA, California: OPC founding member **Fay Gillis Wells**, 91,

now is a calendar girl. Photos and biographies of 12 pioneering women fliers illustrate each month in a year 2000 calendar titled "Women in Aviation," and Wells is featured in June. In 1929, Fay became the first woman pilot to parachute from a disabled airplane, landing in a tree. Over the years, she reported for *The New York Herald Tribune,* AP and Storer Broadcasting from the Soviet Union, Africa and the White House. Others in the calendar include Anne Morrow Lindbergh and Jackie Cochran. The calendar was published by Aviation Archives, 2464 El Camino Real, No. 99, Santa Clara, California 95051; www.womeninaviation.com

SYDNEY: Two newsmen who plan to cover this year's Sydney Summer Olympics, Sept. 15-Oct. 1, have arrived in Australia and joined our reciprocal Foreign Correspondents' Association, Australia and South Pacific: **Marc Béliveau** of Candadian Broadcasting Company-SRc's Le Réseau de l'Information (Information Network) and **Gerrino Mulder**, who files for the Dutch National Press Agency (ANP) and the Rotterdam newspaper *Algemeen Dagblad.* Other new Association members reported in December: **Jorge Bechara**, Brazil's Mastermidia; **Vivienne Stanton**, Reuters; **Ray Sorimachi**, Nippon TV Network; **Ann-Lone Uhrenholt**, *Politiken;* and **Rebecca Gaylord**, freelance.

◆

The December issue of *The Correspondent,* the Sydney Association's journal edited by **Joëlle Dietrich** of *Le Figaro,* recommended the OPC's new quarters, reporting that our club now occupies "plush new abodes" and suggesting: "If you're heading that way, drop in to say hello. We're told they've got an excellent mahogany bar!"

◆

Despite two strokes, **Russell Spurr**, 76, reported in his annual Christmas letter that "a vigorous weekly exercise programme keeps me quite literally on my toes....[the Internet] enables me most mornings to read the daily papers all over the world, research into countless subjects and connect with people all over the map." Over the years, Spurr was a correspondent in India, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada and the UK for BBC, London *Daily Express, Far Eastern Economic Review* and ABC Radio. You can E-mail him at rspurr@zipworld.com.au

TOKYO: Immediately before becoming *The New York Times* Tokyo bureau chief last August, **Howard French** prepared for Asia by immersing himself in Japanese and Korean studies while a visiting scholar at the University of Hawaii and serving as a 1999 Jefferson Fellow at the East-West Center in Hawaii. French, an OPC member, and his *Times* colleague **James C. McKinley Jr.** won the Club's Bob Considine Award for their 1997 coverage of civilian massacres in Zaire despite bouts of malaria and frequent detentions. Before studying in Hawaii, French was *The Times* West and Central Africa bureau chief, 1994-1998, and Caribbean and Central American bureau chief, 1990-1994. In Tokyo, he replaced **Nicholas Kristof**, who with his wife, fellow *Times* reporter and OPC member **Sheryl WuDunn**, returned to the United States to write a book before their next assignment (October *Bulletin*).



Howard French

◆

OPC member **Bruce Dunning**, a CBS News correspondent in Tokyo, visited Hanoi last year for a concert performance in the Hanoi Opera House of "Rigoletto" that was produced by **Wes Benson**, a former Tokyo journalist. After the performance, a reception for cast and opera fans was held in our reciprocal Hanoi Press Club, opened in 1997 as a joint venture of the Vietnam Journalists Association and two French investors (November 1998 *Bulletin*). "The [Club's] bar with its open-air terrace has become the favorite gathering place for Hanoi's growing foreign community including resident journalists," Dunning wrote in *No. 1 Shimbun,* monthly publication of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan. "The design [of the Club's new seven-story building] echoes the style of the French colonial architecture that the Vietnamese authorities are working hard to restore and preserve." The Club includes a restaurant, business center and office space that can be rented for short or long terms.

◆

New members of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan include **Louis Chenaille** of the French sports daily *L'Equipe;* **Michael Watson**, Reuters; **Tim Larimer**, *Time* magazine's Tokyo bureau chief; **Reed Stevenson**, Reuters; and **Michael Williams**, Tokyo bureau chief of *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Asian Wall Street Journal.*

WASHINGTON: **Kate Snow**, a CNN correspondent who reported from Albania and Macedonia during the Kosovo conflict, has been appointed general assignment reporter in the network's Washington bureau.

IN MEMORY

Margaret A. Greenfield, 74, a founder and officer of the Independent Journalism Foundation that trains journalists in Central and Eastern Europe, died Dec. 8 of cancer in her New York City home. She was the wife of *New York Timesman* **James L. Greenfield**, chairman of the Correspondents Fund that helps newsmen down on their luck. In 1991, Margaret, along with James, who survives, and **Donald M. Wilson**, a former *Time* magazine foreign correspondent and executive, founded the Independent Journalism Foundation to teach citizens in former European Communist countries how to work as journalists in a democratic society. She was the Foundation's treasurer, and she designed and furnished its centers in Prague, Bratislava, Bucharest and Budapest. Her husband, a *Time* correspondent in Asia in the 1950s, is a consulting member of the editorial board of *The New York Times,* where earlier he was foreign editor and an assistant managing editor. Jim and Margaret met in Hong Kong in the early 1950s when she was a stewardess for Pan American World Airways. Over the years, she was an art and antique dealer in London, Washington and New York City. The Correspondents Fund, chaired by her husband and established from the sale of the old OPC building, provides financial help to journalists in need.



Margaret A. Greenfield

◆

Brooklyn-born **Joey Adams**, 88, who died of heart failure in a New York City hospital Dec. 2, spent most of his career in the Big Apple as a vaudeville performer, nightclub comedian and author of 23 books. He appeared on radio, movies

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and television, and for 22 years wrote a daily syndicated joke column, "Strictly for Laughs." But he and his journalist wife, **Cindy Adams**, who survives, hobnobbed with presidents and foreign correspondents around the world. U.S. Presidents Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon appointed Joey to be their international goodwill ambassador and sent him on more than 30 foreign tours. Over several years in the 1960s, Cindy spent 11 months in Indonesia writing about Indonesian politics, interviewing President Sukarno and collecting other material for her book "Sukarno An Autobiography As Told to Cindy Adams" [New York: Bobbs-Merrill, 1965]. When Suharto, who succeeded Sukarno, was deposed in 1998, Cindy praised Sukarno in her *New York Post* gossip column: "I wanted to light a candle when I heard Indonesia was finally rid of the dictator Suharto....[Sukarno was] his country's George Washington. Its visionary, its architect, its first president" who fashioned 13,500 islands of the formerly Dutch-ruled East Indies "into a cohesive nation, after the Japanese devoured it, following World War II." The night that column was published, Dewi Sukarno, the president's Japanese widow, and their daughter, Karina, Cindy's godchild, were Cindy's dinner guests. When Cindy arranged a birthday party for her husband's 80th birthday, guests included Imelda Marcos, widow of the Philippine president who was suspected of robbing his nation blind; real estate tycoon Leona Helmsley, later convicted of federal tax evasion; and Bess Myerson, New York City's cultural affairs commissioner who once was involved in an influence-peddling scandal. Those guests inspired one of Joey's best-known one-liners: "If you're indicted, you're invited."



Joey Adams and wife Cindy Adams

◆

Tommy Atkins, 75, a former interpreter and assistant to *New York Times* correspondents in Poland, died Nov. 30 of kidney failure in a hosptial in Boca Raton, Florida, his winter residence. In his native Poland during the 1950s and 1960s, Atkins worked with several *Times* correspondents including **Sydney Gruson** and **A. M. Rosenthal**. He was arrested three times during those years and spent two and a half years in detention for refusing to be a police informer. With help from the *Times* staff, he escaped from Poland in 1963, hiding behind boxes in the station wagon of a departing U.S. Embassy official. In the United States, Atkins earned a master's degree at Columbia University and a Ph.D. from the New School of Social Research, taught library and information science systems at Baruch College and was chief librarian at Hunter College. He lived in New York City.

◆

Robert Worth Bingham 4th was born 33 years ago into a prominent Kentucky newspaper family. His grandfather, **Barry Bingham Sr.**, was editor and publisher of the family-owned *Courier-Journal* and *The Louisville Times.* His father, **Robert Worth Bingham 3rd**, assistant publisher of those newspapers, was killed in a 1966 auto accident, his neck snapped by a surfboard he was carrying in his car. Young Bingham graduated from Brown University in 1988 and received a master of fine arts degree from Columbia University in 1994. In the early 1990s, he worked two years in Phnom Penh as a reporter for *The Cambodia Daily* while the English-language newspaper was setting up shop in the attic of a hotel. He covered the wedding of a Khmer Rouge general's daughter in a risky part of Cambodia, and he supported preservation of photographic archives from Khmer Rouge prisons and archeological expeditions in Greece. When he was 26, his first short story was published in *The New Yorker.* His collection of short stories, "Pure Slaughter Value" [New York: Doubleday, 1997] about booze and drug-addicted young men, prompted *New York* magazine to write, "he may be New York's finest writer about New York." He helped found and edit *Open City*, a new literary magazine. This past May, he married **Vanessa Scharven Chase**, 30, a Harvard graduate now studying for a doctorate in art history at Columbia University. Bingham's first novel, "Lightning on the Sun," is scheduled to be published in May by Doubleday Broadway. On Nov. 28, his wife, who had spent the night with her parents in Princeton, New Jersey, found his lifeless body in the bathroom at their New York City apartment. *The New York Times* reported: "A law enforcement official said that the authorities believe that Mr. Bingham, the last male writer in the storied and contentious Kentucky newspaper family, had overdosed on heroin." **Alex Jones**, author of a 1991 book on the Bingham family, told **Tina Kelley** of *The Times:* "Rob was very young when his father died, and he seemed to be trying his whole life to live up to his father's reputation, both for being a journalist and sort of a swashbuckling, hell-raising, reckless adventurer, which his father also had a fair portion of."



Robert Worth Bingham 4th

◆

Toshio Sakai, 59, who won a 1968 Pulitzer Prize with a Vietnam War photo, died of myocardial infarction at a Kamakura, Japan, hospital Nov. 21. Then a UPI photographer, Sakai won his Pulitzer with a photo of a U.S. soldier resting on sandbags after heavy mortar and sniper fire while another soldier kept watch during a monsoon downpour. The photo was titled "Dreams of Better Times." His award was the first in a new Pulitzer category for feature photography, and he was the third Japanese to win a Pulitzer. Sakai joined UPI in Tokyo in 1965 and was sent to cover the Vietnam War. In 1986 he became AFP's Tokyo photo editor but left the French news agency after covering the 1989 Tiananmen Square trouble in Beijing. He then freelanced and in 1994 set up his own one-man company to produce video tapes on medical and health issues.

◆

Peter Wildeblood, 76, a former diplomatic correspondent for London's *Daily Mail* who fought Britain's laws against homosexuality, died in Vancouver, British Columbia, Nov. 13 of complications following a paralyzing stroke. After telling a court in 1954 that he was a homosexual, Wildeblood was sentenced to 18 months in prison on charges of conspiring to incite a young man to commit what were



Peter Wildeblood

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NEW BOOKS

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1957 to 1960, the vaccine was given to a million people in what are now Rwanda, Burundi and Congo." For years, the Wistar Institute has been and continues to examine the theory that its vaccine might have touched off the AIDS epidemic. "[Hooper's book] does not prove his extraordinary theory, nor does it claim to," Altman wrote. "But it builds a sufficiently detailed case to require serious examination of his theory."

• Three books published in English, Spanish and Portuguese by the Inter American Press Association (IAPA) deal with press freedom in the Western Hemisphere. "Impunity No More" focuses on the 1997 assassination of Colombian journalists **Gerardo Beyoda** and **Jairo Márquez** and the 1995 murder in Brazil of **Zaqueu de Oliveira** and **Ariesteu Guida da Silva**. Up to late last year, no arrests have been made in these cases. During a program in Washington's National Press Club, IAPA President **Jorge E. Fasceeto** presented a copy of the book to Hugo Chavez, president of Venezuela, commenting: "The deplorable acts that are presented in this book show that the cold-blooded assassination of journalists is a practice to try and hide the truth which is very difficult to eradicate." The other books are "Freedom of the Press and the Law" by attorney **Jairo Lanao**, and "Reports on IAPA's History," edited by Argentine journalist **Albino Gómez**.

• Israeli newspaper journalist **Amira Hass** has lived and traveled in Gaza for several years. In "Drinking the Sea at Gaza: Days and Nights in a Land Under Siege" [New York: Metropolitan], she argues that even in the post-Oslo Accord era, life for ordinary Gazans is like that of "animals in a cage." Reviewing her book in *The Washington Post,* **Peter McKenna**, who teaches in the Department of Political and Canadian Studies at Mount Saint Vincent University in Nova Scotia, wrote: "She paints a very depressing and horrific picture—one of chronic poverty, stifling immobility, daily humiliations and repeated interrogations and beatings—of Gaza's one million inhabitants....The key issue for Hass...is Israel's obsession with controlling and keeping the Palestinians in line with a calculated policy of hardship and frustration, economic dependence, heavy taxation and paltry infrastructural and social investment."

• Another book on treatment of Palestinians by Israeli authorities is "Separate and Unequal: The Inside Story of Israeli Rule in East Jerusalem' [Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard] by **Bill Hutman**, a former journalist with the *Jerusalem Post;* and **Amir S. Cheshin** and **Avi Melamed**, both of whom were senior advisors to former Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek. The authors write: "If Israeli leaders had their way, most of the Arab population of east Jerusalem would have left the city long ago." They describe cruel treatment of Palestinians by Israeli authorities and argue that more than 30 years of Israeli rule in east Jerusalem created increased tension and conflict in the city.

• Between them, journalists **Dusko Doder** and **Louise Branson** have worked more than three decades as foreign correspondents, much of that time in the south Balkans. In "Milosevic: Portrait of a Tyrant" [New York: The Free Press], the authors argue that Yugoslavia's fall simply was the handiwork of Slobodian Milosevic. Reviewing the book in *The New York Times,* **Charles King**, a professor of Romanian studies at Georgetown University, writes that journalists over the past decade have simplified Balkan events. First, observers based Yugoslav troubles on the breakup of a shaky federation. Later the key issue was seen as one of ancient ethnic hatreds. "Today," King writes, "following the Kosovo conflict, the matter of Yugoslavia's fall is presented as even simpler: the handiwork of one diabolical man, Slobodan Milosevic, and his drive to enlarge the borders of Serbia. As Dusko Doder and Louise Branson argue, Milosevic's 'militant irredentism' spelled the end of the Yugoslav federation. It was his obsession with fashioning a Greater Serbia that has yielded today's lesser Yugoslavia."

• Here are two books about the Troubles in Northern Ireland as viewed from the Catholic and Protestant sides. In "Killing Rage" [New York: Granta Books], **Eamon Collins** writes what he calls "the most complete insider's account of the grim business of political murder written by any participant in the conflict over the last 28 years." Shot and killed in January 1998, Collins was an Irish Republican Army volunteer who came to abhor the IRA and who described his life in the IRA on British television. In his book, written with British journalist **Mick McGovern**, a contributor to *The New Statesman* and *The Observer*, Collins explains "why a segment of people within the Catholic population believed that the best way to redress their grievances was through violence." In "Loyalists: War and Peace in Northern Ireland" [New York: TV Books], **Peter Taylor** examines Protestant paramilitary groups that considered themselves loyal to the Queen but not necessarily to Parliament. Taylor has covered the Troubles for more than 25 years and has made more than 50 documentaries on the conflict for British and American television. Reviewing both books, **Jo Thomas**, a *New York Times* correspondent in Northern Ireland 1984-1986 wrote of "Loyalists": "For decades, until the end of the 1980s, loyalist paramilitaries tended to kill ordinary Catholics, arguing that they couldn't figure out who was in the IRA so they would simply single out people who lived in Catholic neighborhoods, meaning any Catholic who happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time."

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then described in law as indecent acts. The *Daily Mail* dismissed him. His 1955 book "Against the Law" reported on his experiences in the courts and prison and inspired debates in Parliament that led to the 1967 decriminalization of private homosexual acts between consenting adults over 21. After his release from prison, Wildeblood operated a bar in London's Soho district, published three fiction works, a play and several musicals. In the early 1970s, he accepted a television production offer from Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and moved to Vancouver.

◆

Robertson R. Grant, 76, a retired VOA broadcaster from Africa, died of congestive heart failure Nov. 2 at a Stephens City, Virginia, nursing home. He joined VOA in New York in 1958, moving to London in 1962 for a year's study at the School of Oriental and African Studies at London University. For the next five years and again in the early 1970s, he was a VOA correspondent in Africa. Grant also accompanied a National Geographic Society research team to the Arctic. He retired in 1985.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

For the "People" column, please send your 21st Century news to ***Al Kaff,*** *393 Unquowa Road, Fairfield, Connecticut 06430.*

New Books

• When he was a boy, new OPC member **Pete Hamill**, inspired by comic strips, practiced drawing cartoons and dreamed of becoming a famous cartoonist. Later he studied art at Mexico City College on the GI Bill. But instead of drawing and painting, he became a writer and editor at several newspapers and magazines including the *New York Post,* the New York *Daily News, Saturday Evening Post, Village Voice, New York Magazine, Mexico City News, Esquire* and *Newsday.* He wrote novels and nonfiction books set in diverse scenes including life at a Florida Navy base during the Korean War, Tokyo people, growing up in Brooklyn and his own drinking life. He even appeared in a movie, playing a *New York Times* reporter in "The Insider," the film released last year about TV's "60 Minutes" and the whistle-blower from the cigarette industry. Now in "Diego Rivera" [New York: Abrams], Hamill returns to art by writing about the life, loves and work of the Mexican muralist. The book includes 100 illustrations, 50 in full color—reproductions of Rivera's murals, paintings and drawings as well as documentary photographs. Of Rivera, Hamill writes: "He had done something that few artists have ever done: he'd given a nation an identity. Rivera put his stamp on Mexico the way Bernini placed his on Rome. It is impossible to think of Mexico today without also seeing the images of Diego Rivera....In his art, he unified a people long fractured by history, language, racism, religious and political schism. He said in his art: You are all Mexico." Writing in *The New York Times,* reviewer **Carolyn T. Hughes** calls "Diego Rivera" a "fascinating book....As Hamill points out, Rivera was a man of contradictions. He was a staunch Communist and president of the Workers and Farmers Bloc in Mexico, but he never hesitated to accept commissions from wealthy capitalists. And like his former mentor and sometime rival, Pablo Picasso, Rivera was both a lover and destroyer of the women in his life.... [Hamill] writes authoritatively about Rivera's work and diverse styles." Hamill is married to author **Fukiko Aoki**, also an OPC member. Despite its price, $49.50, the illustrated Rivera volume is "doing very good," Aoki told the *Bulletin.* "It's a beautiful book."

• In "Passionate Sex: Discover the Special Power in You" [New York: Carroll & Graf], OPC member **Leslie Aldridge Westoff** and **Daniel S. Stein**, a surgeon and gynecologist, describe how the "loving expression of sexuality between partners committed to their relationship can lead to a healthier and more joyful day-to-day life." Describing the book, the publisher wrote: "Contrary to our puritan society, which has traditionally striven to repress the power of sexual energy, the authors demonstrate how, instead, it can play a fundamental role in sustaining sound health, preserving youthful spirit and amplifying a sense of well-being. It shows, too, that aging need not diminish sexual vitality." Westoff, who lives in Palm Beach, Florida, is the author of four earlier books. Her articles have been published in *The New York Times Magazine, Forbes, Esquire, People, Money, Harper's Bazaar, Cosmopolitan, Mademoiselle McCall's* and other magazines, and she has appeared on national TV networks.



Leslie Aldridge Westoff

• **Edward Hooper**, a British journalist, traveled throughout Europe and the United States interviewing AIDS researchers and working on a theory that the AIDS epidemic was started by the testing on humans of a polio vaccine in Africa in the 1950s. In "The River: A Journey to the Source of HIV and AIDS" [New York: Little Brown], Hooper bases his theory on circumstantial evidence collected in hundreds of interviews and hours of library research. Calling it "a remarkable new book," **Lawrence K. Altman**, a medical doctor who reports for *The New York Times*, wrote: "Hooper suggests that an experimental oral polio vaccine might have been made with chimpanzee tissue contaminated with an ancestor of the virus that was to cause AIDS....[Hooper] finds close coincidence in both time and place between the earlier cases of AIDS and the testing of an oral vaccine developed at the Wistar Institute in Philadelphia and, later, in two laboratories in Belgium. From

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SAVE THE DATE
Valentine's Party
February 14
at the Club

OPC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Andy Rooney
Guest Speaker

Monday, January 24
at Noon
Yale Club
50 Vanderbilt Avenue

The Overseas Press Club of America
40 West 45 Street
New York, NY 10036 USA